

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

Art
~~The present invention is characterized in that:~~ a A plurality of NC machine tools (28) each including NC program generating ~~means~~ units and NC program improving and updating ~~means~~ units ~~that~~ are connected to a central manager (1) ~~via~~ a network; actual machining performance information is supplied to the central manager (1) from the respective NC machine tools (28); the central manager (1) generates databases (3 ~~to~~ 12) from the collected actual machining performance information and stores the database (3 ~~to~~ 12) therein; and the NC machine tools (28) are each permitted to retrieve information necessary for machining from the database (3 ~~to~~ 12).